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ADMIRAL RABORN IS NEW CIA DIRECTOR -- Santiago, Golpe
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A man who served his country with distinction from his position as a naval officer of the highest rank has begun a new governmental career as director of the US Central Intelligence Agency.

President Lyndon B. Johnson recently named Vice Adm William Francis Raborn (ret.) to occupy the position formerly held by John McCone as director of one of the most complex intelligence operations in the world.

Since September 1963 when he retired from the Navy, Admiral Raborn has been vice president and program director of Aerojet-General Corporation, an organization concerned with rocket propulsion and space research. William E. Zisch, president of Aerojet, recently said his company hired Admiral Raborn because of "his ability to complete difficult jobs in a minimum amount of time."

Without doubt, President Johnson shared this opinion when he asked the Admiral to take over the CIA position. Although most of his experience has been in scientific and technical fields, higher ranking officials believe that the Admiral will be as efficient in the direction of extensive intelligence operations as he was when he solved difficult technical problems for the Navy.

They point out that the affable, sociable Admiral is a man of sound judgment who gives himself to his tasks and wins the loyalty of his subordinates. They believe that these talents were the reason for the success of his work in perfecting Polaris missiles for firing rockets with nuclear payloads from submerged atomic submarines.

In recognition of his extraordinary achievements, President Dwight D. Eisenhower bestowed on him the Distinguished Service Award of the US. The following year, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration awarded him the Robert J. Collier trophy, an honor granted annually for the most important achievement in aeronautics or astronautics which improves productivity, efficiency, and safety in air or space machinery.

Admiral Raborn was born in Decatur, Texas, on 8 June 1905, the second of eight children. After attending public schools in Oklahoma he received an appointment to the US Naval Academy where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in June 1928.

A naval aviator at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, he served as second in command of the aircraft carrier Hancock during the Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and other campaigns in World War II.

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In April 1945, he was awarded the Silver Star for heroism as commander of the crew that overcame a fire that was started aboard the Hancock by an enemy bomb. Upon the conclusion of the Second World War, he dedicated himself to naval duties and research and development.

He entered the Navy guided missile program in July 1949 when he was assigned to the Bureau of Ordinance, Artillery Department, in Washington.

One year later he returned to sea as captain of the USS Bairoko in the Pacific. He received further instruction in research when he returned to the US in 1951 and was assigned to the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

In April 1954, he was named captain of the USS Bennington. He held this position when, in May of the same year, a series of violent explosions occurred aboard the ship in Newport. Raborn, who then held the rank of captain, received a citation for his part in saving many lives.

In 1955, he was appointed to direct the Polaris development program. Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, then Chief of Naval Operations, explained that he was selected not only because he had been an aviator but also because "he knew how to inspire confidence and cooperation in others in critical situations."

He has a son and a daughter, both married, by a first marriage. He is now married to Mildred Terrill, a former Navy nurse who holds the rank of Major.

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